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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claims 1-165 (canceled).

166. (new) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle comprising an air outlet through which air flows into the toner container by way of an air conduit, and a hole through which toner is replenished to a developing section by way of a toner conduit, said toner container comprising:

a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with the nozzle; and
an air filter window in one of a bottom and a wall of said toner container.

167. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein when said toner container is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm³) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm³ or less.

168. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said air is blown by an air pump into the toner container and said toner is sucked by a suction pump out of the toner container.

169. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said nozzle is formed with a tubular toner outlet portion having the air outlet and the hole.

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170. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said toner container is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of said toner container.

171. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising a toner outlet through which toner is discharged from said toner container.

172. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, wherein said mating portion allows said toner outlet to remain in a mating position with said nozzle, and said mating portion forms a sealing enclosure between the toner outlet and the nozzle.

173. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 172, wherein said mating portion includes an elastic member, and said elastic member forms a hermetically closed seal between said toner outlet and said nozzle.

174. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, wherein said toner outlet comprises a tubular body.

175. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, further comprising a side wall connecting said bottom of said toner container and said toner outlet, wherein said side wall includes a tapered structure having a decreasing cross section in a direction toward said toner outlet.

176. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 175, wherein said toner outlet comprises a tubular body, and a surface of said side wall forming said tapered structure is

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inclined relative to a section of said tubular body by an angle of about 45 degrees to about 90 degrees.

177. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 175, wherein said toner outlet comprises a tubular body, said toner container has at least four sides, and at least one of said at least four sides forms said side wall which is inclined relative to a section of said tubular body by less than 90 degrees.

178. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 171, wherein when said toner container is mounted to an image forming apparatus, said toner outlet is at a lower end of said toner container, and the toner is drawn out from said toner container through the toner outlet, at least in part by gravitational force.

179. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein when said toner container is mounted to an image forming apparatus, a mouth of said toner container faces a downward direction.

180. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, wherein said toner is stored in said toner container.

181. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising: a sack formed of a flexible material; and a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack.

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182. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 181, wherein said sack is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of said sack.

183. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 181, further comprising position preserving means for preserving a position of said sack.

184. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising: a sack formed of a flexible material; a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack; and position preserving means for preserving a position of said sack, wherein said position preserving means comprises a box-like member surrounding an entire periphery of said sack.

185. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising: a sack formed of a flexible material; and a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack, wherein said sack is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of said sack.

186. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 166, further comprising: a sack formed of a flexible material; and a toner outlet through which the toner can be discharged from said sack, wherein said toner outlet is provided with a fitting portion which is fitted in said sack.

187. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 186, wherein said fitting portion of said toner outlet has a ship-like cross section.

188. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 186, wherein said toner outlet is

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provided with a flange which is disposed between said fitting portion and said toner outlet.

189. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 181, wherein said toner is stored in said toner container.

190. (new) A toner container configured to be connected with a nozzle comprising an air outlet through which air from an air pump flows into the toner container by way of an air conduit, and a hole through which toner sucked by a suction pump is replenished to a developing section by way of a toner conduit, said toner container comprising:

a mating portion for allowing said toner container to mate with said nozzle; and
an air filter window in one of a bottom and a wall of said toner container.

191. (new) A toner container as claimed in claim 190, wherein when said toner container is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm^3) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm^3 or less.